

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3682

INFO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 4445

E.O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO MILI AWACS OCON DA

SUBJ: NATO AEW SUPPORT

REF: STATE 292188

1. WE BELIVE THAT WE HAVE PRESSED THE DANES ON THE NATO AEW SYSTEM AS FAR AS IT IS PRESENTLY ADVISABLE TO DO SO. OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS THEY HAVE MOVED FROM OPPOSING THE SYSTEM IN PRINCIPLE TO SUPPORT FOR IT AND HAVE PROMISED TO SAY SO AT NEXT WEEK'S DPC.

2. THE GOVERNMENT IS PRESENTLY OCCUPIED WITH LEGISLATIVE ATTEMPTS TO HOLD THE LID ON THE LABOR MARKET UNTIL NATIONAL AGREEMENTS ARE RENEWED BY MARCH 1. NEW LEGISLATION IS EXPECTED TO BE PASSED BY THE FOLKETING TODAY OR TOMORROW TO PREVENT FURTHER WILDCAT STRIKES AND INTERPARTY NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN CONTINUING ON THIS SUBJECT OVER THE LAST WEEK AND A HALF. THESE NEGOTIATIONS PRE-EMPTED A MEETING SCHEDULED FOR YESTERDAY EVENING WHICH WAS TO HAVE BEEN A "FINAL" ATTEMPT TO HAMMER OUT A NEW DEFENSE AGREEMENT THAT MOD ORLA MOLLER COULD HAVE TAKEN WITH HIM TO THE DPC.

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3. WITHOUT SUCH AN AGREEMENT, WITH THE GOVERNMENT WHOLLY

ENGAGED IN DOMESTIC PROBLEMS AND IN LIGHT OF OUR REPEATED PRESSURES ON THE DANES OVER THE LAST YEAR IN BEHALF OF A NATO AEW, WE BELIEVE WE HAVE ALREADY TAKEN ALL THE STEPS NOW NEEDED. IN FACT, AT A LUNCHEON RECEPTION TODAY, THE DANISH CHIEF OF DEFENSE INFORMED THE DCM THAT MOLLER WOULD SPEAK IN SUPPORT OF AEW AT DPC BUT COULD NOT GO FURTHER AT THIS TIME.

DEAN

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